Initial sanction	- August 1983.
Phase 1 Full Scale Engineering Development (FSED)	- June 1993.
Phase 2 FSED	- November 2001.

(c) Development delays are attributable to technological difficulties, non availability of infrastructure, revision of development strategy by increasing indigenous content and US sanctions imposed in May 1998.

(d) LCA incorporates State-of-the-Art technologies. Flight Test Programme is being accelerated through efficient use of software and by resorting to multiple shift operations. Time schedule of production phase has been compressed by dovetailing Limited Series Production (LSP) with Flight Test Phase.

Request by Karnataka Government to reduce share in respect of Modernisation of Police Scheme

1414. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Karnataka has been fully and effectively utilizing the modernisation grants under Modernisation Scheme of security forces;

(b) if so, whether the Karnataka Government has requested the Central Government to reduce the State's share from 50 to 20 per cent under the Modernisation Scheme;

(c) the amount of modernisation grant sanctioned to Karnataka during 2001 -2002 and 2002-2003; and

(d) since the State is finding it difficult to give a matching grant of 50 per cent, will Government take steps to reduce the State's share from 50 to 20 per cent as modernisation of security forces was a matter of national importance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (c) During 2000-01 and 2001 -02, modernization plans worth Rs. 165.70 crore and Rs. 153.96 crore respectively in respect of Karnataka were approved. Central share of Rs. 82.85 crore and

Rs. 76.96 crore during 2000-01 and 2001 -02 respectively was accordingly released to the State Government. The State Government reported a utilization of Rs. 162.63 crore for 2000-01 and Rs. 93.34 crore for 2001 -02.

During the current financial year, 2002-03 modernization plan worth Rs. 160.01 crore has been approved and Central share of Rs. 75.00 crore has already been released to the State Government of Karnataka, which includes an amount of Rs. 38.93 lakhs placed at the disposal of Directorate of Coordination (Police Wireless) for implementation of the POLNET project in the State. No utilization report has been received in respect of the approved plan of 2002-03.

No request to reduce the State's share from 50 to 20 per cent under the Police Modernization Scheme has been received from the State Government of Karnataka.

(d) The revised Scheme of modernization of police forces which was approved in 2000-01 with annual Central assistance enhanced to Rs. 1000 crore provides for review of the Scheme after every two years of implementation. Accordingly, a Review Committee under a Special Secretary of Ministry of Home Affairs was constituted, which has submitted its report. It recommended, *inter-alia,* that the Centre's contribution towards the modernization of police forces of the State may be increased from 50% to 75% out of which 50% should be grant and 25% should be loan. The proposal in this regard is under active consideration of the Government of India.

Fake Passports Racket

1415. DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a racket is in operation in Hyderabad and other Airports with fake passports;

(b) how many such cases have been booked during the last three months;

(c) how many brokers have been booked; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to check this malpractice?